

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN REVIEW OF
CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION

Introduction

On June 17, 2008, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) from Liberty Dairy, LLC in Union County. The application was submitted to comply with both the NPDES CAFO Permit Rule and the Indiana Confined Feeding Control Law. Notice is hereby given that IDEM is opening a comment period on the draft individual permit and application.

Application Details

The Liberty Dairy facility will consist of three confinement barns confining a total of 2,500 cows, manure/process wastewater storage structures, milk parlor, holding barn and offices. Each of the confinement barns will have concrete floors. Manure/process wastewater from the confinement barns and dairy operation are delivered by a flush flume to a concrete manure/process wastewater separator reception pit, the sand/manure settling channel, a manure/sand treatment separator building with a concrete pit and sump, a solid manure/sand storage dewatering concrete pad and finally to one of three synthetic lined earthen manure/process wastewater storage lagoons. The three earthen lagoons will be constructed of a geotextile liner over a 40 mil. HDPE synthetic liner, followed by a 60 mil. HDPE synthetic liner constructed over a geocomposite liner sitting on insitu base soils. All milking parlor wastewaters will be directed to the manure/process wastewater storage lagoons for final storage. The raw materials and feed storage area is designed to collect silage leachate and storm water up to the 25-year, 24-hour rain event in a concrete pit and pumped to one of the earthen synthetic lined manure/process wastewater storage lagoons. Storm water from the dairy operation is handled by a proposed earthen storm water detention basin. All manure and process wastewaters will be land applied by the permittee, a contractor under the control of the permittee, or distributed to other persons for land application or converting to compost. The milk chilling process utilizes groundwater and a non-contact cooling device. The non-contact cooling water will be collected for recycling as drinking water or to mist the cows for cooling purposes. Excess non-contact cooling water must be conveyed to an existing field drainage tile and not to any of the manure/process wastewater storage structures. The facility must be constructed and operated in accordance with the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Rule's (327 IAC 5-4-3 and 327 IAC 15-15) and Indiana's Confined Feeding Operation Rule (327 IAC 16).

Public Hearing

IDEM has reserved space in the auditorium at Union County High School on November 13, 2008, 410 Patriot Boulevard, Liberty, (765)-458-5136. The hearing will be held at 6:30 PM Eastern Daylight Standard Time (EDST). The intent of the public hearing is to solicit oral and written technical comments from all interested parties. A court reporter will transcribe the public hearing which is being held pursuant to IC 13-15-3-3.

ADA Compliance

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations for participation in this event should contact the Indiana State Personnel Department ADA Coordinator at: Attn: Lavenia Haskett, Indiana State Personnel Department, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204, or call (317) 232-4555 (V), (317) 232-6565 (V-TTY). Please provide a minimum of 72 hours notification.

Public Review and Comment

The draft permit is available for review in the Union County Public Library, 2 East Seminary Street, Liberty, Indiana 47353, (765)-458-5355 and on IDEM's agency's web page at:
<http://www.in.gov/idem/land/permits/notices/index.html>.

The NPDES permit application and supporting documents is available in IDEM's public file room on the 12th floor of the Indiana Government Center-North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis Indiana 46204, during normal working hours. You may also review the material on IDEM's website in the virtual file cabinet section.

Comments should be technical comments, which addresses compliance with 327 IAC 5-4-3, 327 IAC 15-15, and 327 IAC 16, which can be viewed at:
<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03270/A00160.PDF> Citizens should be reminded that some issues (odor, potential devalued property, and traffic concerns) are not within IDEM's jurisdiction. Rather, they are local zoning issues. Persons presenting comments are requested to submit one written copy of the comment and submit it to IDEM within 30 days after the publication of this notice to:

Daniel J Bruggen
IDEM- OLQ
Solid Waste Permits Section
00 North Senate Avenue
MC 65-45, IGCN 1154
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251

Concerns will be summarized and a document will be drafted in which a response will be given for each concern. A copy of the responsiveness summary will be mailed to each person who submits written comment if a complete, legible address is provided to IDEM with the comment.

Further Information

For further information please call Daniel Bruggen (317)-233-3554, Dennis Lasiter (317)-232-8732 or Jerome Rud (317)-232-7200.